



Potters Guild of British Columbia

1359 Cartwright St., Granville Island
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R7
(604) 683-9623

NEWSLETTER

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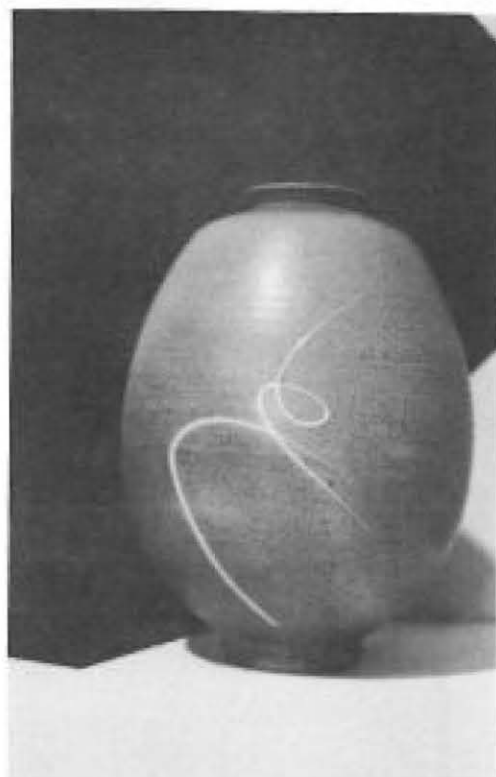
The pieces shown are
representative of the show
"Fired Up"
featured at
The Gallery of B.C. Ceramics
September 1990



Susan Lepoidevin



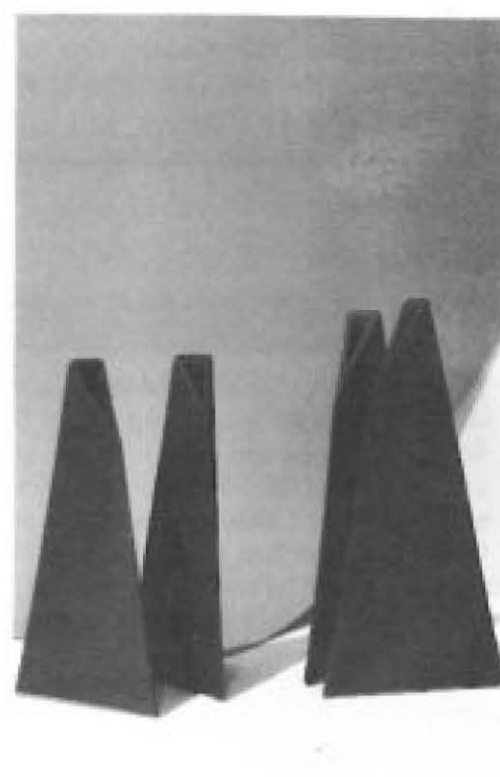
Sue Hara



Gordon Hutchens



Louise Card



Diane Searle

The Potters Guild of B.C. NEWSLETTER

is published 10 times a year. Submissions are welcome, and should be in the Guild office by the last Friday of the month. Material may be edited for publication.

Managing Editor: Jan Kidnie.

Contributing Editor: Mary Anne Kingsmill.

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The Potters Guild of B.C. membership is \$20.00-individuals, \$30.00-groups, January to January. See application form elsewhere in this issue.

Board of Directors: Tam Irving-President, D'Arcy Margesson-Vice President, Kathryn Youngs-Treasurer, June MacDonald-Secretary, Heather Chapman, Bob Kingsmill, Carol Klasen, Elwin Lowe, Donna Nabata, Nathan Rafia, Elsa Schamis, Laura Taylor.

NOTES FROM BOB KINGSMILL

One of the pleasant and ironic surprises of this last summer at my Granville Island Studio has been the number of pots and potential *objets d'art* I've sold to Japanese visitors. The great majority were sold to young people here studying English. They were invariably shy and excited, easily breaking into laughter at their English utterances.

The very idea, however, of sending pots to Japan is simply preposterous. I mean, they have a ceramic history of 7,000 years. And I haven't even been to a bleeding art school. The whole thing seems like some kind of obscure silliness.

My favourite sale was to an architect from Kyoto. It is one thing to send a pot to Japan, but of even more relevance if it goes to Kyoto—the ancient, revered city of temples, the capital for 1,000 years, a city of sophisticated lovers of Japan's arts; the home of Kanjiro Kawai.

And it wasn't just a pot. It was one of my raku tea bowls!

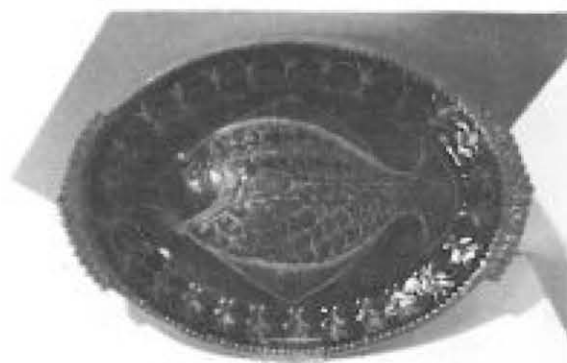
So this was indeed a sale of great potential significance—if you go in for that kind of thing.

As the architect handed me the bowl he asked if I might do him a favour. Ever the humble potter/shopkeeper I said, "Of course," thinking that he might want it boxed or wrapped. He was looking at the bowl. I was looking at him. And he said, "would you grind one quarter inch off the foot? In Japan, the foot is a little shorter than this."

At that point, ever composed, I suggested he visit Daniel Materna's studio or the Potter's Guild. To my relief, he thanked me and disappeared.

Twenty minutes later he returned and requested again that I take my piece to the grinder. So, of course, being a man of principle, I did it.

And we bowed our goodbyes.



Meg Burgess



Gary Merkel

UPDATE ON 1991 EXHIBITION: CHOOSING CLAY

We are pleased to announce that a grant of \$2,000.00 was received from the Koerner Foundation as a contribution toward costs of this exhibition. Unfortunately we were turned down by Canada Council. Works will be arriving on November 1 for photographing and a number of catalogue designs are currently being considered.

As mentioned in the June Newsletter, the catalogue text will include statements by the seven sponsors about the reasons for their choices.

The exhibition will travel and has already been requested by the Art Gallery of South West Manitoba, Brandon; West Kootenay National Exhibition Centre, Castlegar; Prince George Art Gallery and the Kelowna Art Gallery.



Gallery of B.C. Ceramics
1359 Cartwright St.
Vancouver B.C. Canada
(604) 669-5645 V6H 3R7

GALLERY REPORT

The work by the **FIRED-UP** group out of Vancouver Island was a refreshing feature in the Gallery in September. We wish we could reproduce photos of all the work in this issue. Thank you to **Alan and Meg Burgess, Louise Card, Judi Dyelle, Sue Hara, Robin Hopper, Gordon Hutchens, Susan Lepoidevin, Gary Merkel, Craig Rogers, Diane Searle** and **Pat Webber** for their contributions.

Marlene Bowman's work is featured in **Raku: Colours Of Copper** until October 14th; **Takako Suzuki** from Oct. 16th-Nov. 4th; and **Gordon Hutchens** from Nov. 6th-25th.

Lea Price is managing the Gallery until Coralie's return in early December.

Jurying deadline for submission of work is October 15th. Call Bob Kingsmill at 682-6575 if you have trouble with that date. We apologize for omitting the notice in the September issue.

STUDIO 5 SPACE: GRANVILLE ISLAND

The Potters Guild of British Columbia is offering the use on a subsidized basis, of an equipped studio for a one-year term, beginning January 1st, 1991, for a qualified applicant.

The individual space in question is one of five in a large group studio. The cost, including utilities, is \$160.00 per month.

Interested applicants please send at least 6 slides of current work, and a résumé to the Guild at 1359 Cartwright St., Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R7 by October 31st, 1990.

EXHIBITIONS & SALES

Richmond Art Gallery, 7671 Minoru Gate, Richmond, B.C.—276-4012, features **"Earth and Fire"**, ceramic work by Shirley Inouye, Patricia Forst, Patrick Maw, and Peter Daniels, from October 18-29. The Richmond Potters' Club presents **Local Ceramic Art**, November 22 to December 3.

The Richmond Potters' Club, 7671 Minoru Gate, Richmond, B.C. **Christmas Sale** will be held November 24 and 25 at the Minoru Pavilion.

Community Arts Council of Vancouver, 837 Davie, 683-4358, holds its **fourth annual juried show** for recreational artists, formerly the Sunday Artists Show, October 4th to 26th. Call for further information to attend or participate.

The Koffler Gallery, 4588 Bathurst, North York, Ontario M2R 1W6, is holding **"20-20 Hindsight"**, a retrospective exhibition of Harlan House's ceramic work, 1969-1989, November 15-January 2, 1991. In conjunction, they are advertising an illustrated catalogue for \$22.50, incl. postage.

The Canadian Craft Museum 1411 Cartwright Street, Granville Island, Vancouver, B.C. **Made By Hand: Felt and Paper** until December 30. For information about related workshops call (604) 684-7174.

Circle Craft Gallery, 1-1666 Johnston Street, Granville Island, Vancouver. **Summer Reflections**; clay by Margaret McClelland. October 5-30. Seven days a week, 10 am to 6 pm.

Coquitlam Recreation Centre, 624 Poirier Street, Coquitlam. **Christmas Craft Sale**, November 30, December 1 & 2. Contact coordinator Becky MacDonald (604) 936-3481.

Museum of Anthropology, University of B.C. The earthenware collection at the new Koerner Wing is well worth a visit, so we are advised by June MacDonald.

Chelsea Comes to California—The best of British contemporary crafts are to be shown in Orange County, California, October 11-12, 1990 at Crystal Court in South Coast Plaza. Organized by the London-based Crafts Council with the support of Britain's Department of Trade and Industry. Among the 90 exhibitors will be the Crafts Shop of London's Victoria and Albert Museum. The Ceramic section of the show offers a large variety in styles and techniques: sculpture, functional tableware, tiles, raku.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Banff: Form & Function Workshop, January 7-18, 1991. An intensive residential workshop designed to bring studio artists together for discussion of the previous year's body of work and production of work. Studio space and kilns provided. Artists in residence will be Jeff Oestrich and Carol McNicoll. Limit 10 people. Information: The Registrar, Banff Center for the Arts, B1020, Banff, Alberta T0L 0C0. Phone: (403) 762-6180.

Emily Carr College of Art and Design, Outreach Program 1990/91:

Handbuilding - Laura Wee Lay Laq - **Kamloops** - March 23-24, 1991. Info: Thompson Valley Potters' Guild: 374-2232.

Handbuilding - Sally Michener - **Williams Lake**, October 13-14, 1990.

Wheel - Tam Irving - **Williams Lake**, February 16-17, 1991. Info: Williams Lake Potters' Guild: 392-4438.

Tilemaking - Jan Grove - **Abbotsford**, March 1-2, 1991. Info: Art Association: 853-7191.

Wheel - Corinne Boychuk, **Fort Nelson**, November 3-4, 1990. Info: Northern Lights College: 774-2741.

Wheel - Jan Grove - **Revelstoke**, October 20-21, 1990. Info: Revelstoke Art Group: 837-5277.

Handbuilding - Corinne Boychuk - **Salmon Arm**, March 2-3, 1991. Info: Okanagan College: 832-8610.

EVEN WHEN NOT IN USE



Peter Flanagan



Graeme Allemeersch



Gary Merkel

During my holidays in August I dropped in to see the show at the Penticton Art Gallery by Graeme Allemeersch, Peter Flanagan, and Gary Merkel. A bit earlier in the summer I'd seen a review of the show in one of the local Vancouver papers and it sounded very good, so I was curious to see how it looked.

Walking into the gallery with its usual white walls and reserved atmosphere, my first impression was of a splash of color. Much of the work, even though it came from three quite diverse techniques and personalities, was tied together by the playful use of color. Bright green, yellow and orange along with more subtle pastels, made it a stunning gallery to walk into.

In particular, Gary Merkel's vessels which were held and suspended on slender curving metal supports had a won-

derful tension about them, textural and solid looking yet almost floating in the air.

Graeme Allemeersch's pieces were very confident forms with colorful robust decoration on a delicate majolica glaze. I liked Peter Flanagan's cups, with green and blue and orange patches to warm up a soft white glaze.

All told, it was a great show and it was nice to see it in another area of the province. For those of you who get up that way, drop into the retail shop and studio, Okanagan Pottery, that Peter shares with Des Loan. They are north of Penticton on Highway 97, just before you go into Peachland. It's a nice drive and you may even be able to talk Peter into a cup of coffee.

Dave Dobie

CTS RECOVERY CAN BE RAPID

From VDT* News, Vol. VII, No. 4 July/August 1990

*Video Display Terminal

This article was sent in by Phyllis Argyle, a long-time Guild member.
Thanks Phyllis!

People with carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS) need not live in pain or lose months of work, according to two Pennsylvania doctors. Drs. David Pagnanelli and Steven Barrer claim that corrective surgery done in their office has enabled most patients to enjoy full recovery in a few weeks.

The two doctors, both associated with Abington Hospital in Abington, PA, report that 65% of their patients were able to return to work in three weeks and 88% were back on the job in less than six weeks; their statistics are based on a survey of 132 patients six months after they underwent surgery on both hands.

CTS, one of the more severe types of repetition strain injury (RSI), has traditionally been treated by a surgical procedure called the "open" carpal tunnel release. This technique involves opening the entire hand and wrist to relieve the pressure on the nerve.

Pagnanelli and Barrer use the "closed" technique. It requires only a small incision, no general anesthesia and no hospital stay. Moreover, patients need not wear splints after the surgery, and no physical therapy is necessary.

Many of the 132 patients were secretaries, VDT operators or other office workers.

GALLERY NEWS

By Lea Price

Fall continues and so do the number of visitors coming through our doors. People from all over the world are very impressed with the quality and diversity of the work displayed.

The first fall feature, "Fired Up", was very well received. Pat Webber's small frog bowl was popular, with many, many people wishing there was another. Louise Card's small one-bird pitcher was another piece people were drawn to time and time again. Diane Searle's celadon tea set was a real charmer. Before the show closed, Gordon Hutchen's large low-fired vessel and 'copper' plate were whisked away to the Canadian Embassy in Japan.

Marlene Bowman's show, "The Colours of Copper", has been even more successful. One large vessel was bought as we were setting up the show. Another vessel went back to Japan to become the honorable water container for the tea ceremony. Marlene's thrown forms are strong and the wonderful subtle colours of her copper stain enhance the forms to perfection.

Takako Suzuki's show, "Many Footed Bowls", runs October 16th through to November 4th. Come to the opening Saturday October 20th, 2-4 pm and meet Takako.

"Gordon Hutchens, New Works" follows November 6th to November 25th. And the Christmas show is coming right after. Some people are beginning to shop and buy already!



Robin Hopper



Pat Webber



Meg Burgess



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Talk to LEN, DAVE, VERN OR RICK

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- 14th Century Thai effigy figures

A second trip to Southeast Asia and Indonesia in 1970 included two side-trips to satisfy the potter in the family. The first was to Taiwan to visit the National Museum, where one must visit each month for several years in order to see all the treasures taken from Mainland China by Chiang Kai-Shek when the Nationalists retreated from Mao's forces. The museum itself is built at the entrance to caves in the rock face, which provide a very safe holding area indeed for the millions of artifacts! Also in Taiwan were the visits to local kilns which were more like factories than any of our local kilns. A fine type of translucent white porcelain was being produced from moulds; then on the classical forms, artists with great technical skill copied the intricately painted fine porcelains of the Qing Dynasty. Even an expert would have great difficulty choosing the original!

Possibly the most exciting experience for me was the fact that we were billeted in the Grand Hotel where Chiang Kai Shek placed his visitors. It was more museum than hotel, with priceless Chinese rugs, furniture and porcelains in all the rooms and with red pillars and gold lacquer fronting our balconies.

From Bangkok in Thailand a second detour was made—to Chiang Mai in the north. Most Western visitors at the time visited this area to reach the Golden Triangle, rich with fields of poppies and such. I settled for day trips to craft sites, and lucked out one day when, after visiting silver craftsmen, woodcarvers, and a rather primitive silk factory, I asked the driver if there were kilns about. He seemed to know but one word of English—“yes”; so off

we went, driving through paddy fields at first, then clouds of red pottery clay and clouds of white pottery clay. (It being one day before the onset of the Spring monsoon). We drove then through a wide but shallow river before stopping in a thinly wooded, hilly area. The driver got out and beckoned us to follow. This kiln had not been in operation for four hundred years!

It was Sankampaeng, a 15th C. site, with kiln wasters and sherds lying close to the surface, pushed up by the roots of scrubby trees. The short tight skirts of 1970 were not designed for carrying freight, but with a backward glance at modesty, mine was soon hiked to the waist and filled with the most interesting of sherds. Noting my delight with the sherds, the driver negotiated a visit to the home of one of the local ‘collectors’. Climbing the ladder to the home on stilts was also a feat in short skirts, and attracted the neighbors who carried with them a variety of mass-produced, stoneware jarlets and small covered pots. Some of the villagers had very good pots, some not so good. In order not to offend, I bought one pot from each using \$100 borrowed from the taxi driver.

Efficient modern celadon kilns exist as well in the Chiang Mai area; producing quantities of excellent monochromes and some with underglaze iron decorations. Wares in the Sankampaeng tradition and figures glazed with celadon or brown slip also find their way onto the market but are easy to recognize once one becomes familiar with the originals.

Later, in a small market tucked behind Wat Mahadhat Bazaar in Bangkok, I discovered

several effigy figures in the form of mothers with infants, produced in the 14th–16th C. Followers of an Animist religion, the people believed that by breaking the effigies, evil spirits would be released, and the mother then be assured a safe delivery. Most pieces are recovered with broken necks. One figure was of a male holding a fighting cock!

I learned from the ‘bicycle boys’, (who felt that I had “given myself for their country” working as a nurse), to recognize a repaired or restored piece of porcelain—a very generous offering, as their livelihood depended in part on dealing with an ignorant public. The majority of these knowledgeable itinerant dealers in antique trade porcelains were from Padang in West Sumatra; a matrilineal society of Muslims, where boys from the age of puberty were sent to sleep at the local mosque. Three generations of women lived in the magnificent large horned houses, the men being welcomed home once a year for a few days to arrange an addition to the family!

My main source of knowledge, however, was Mr. Djody, the top antique dealer in Indonesia. Each day on returning to the Hotel Indonesia, hair and clothing wringing wet from the heat of the operating room, I had slumped into the first available haven—(his air-conditioned shop)—to catch my breath and regain some energy. From Djody I learned to bargain without being mean; to recognize a fake, and to appreciate the shape, colour, and voice of a good bowl. In the beginning I didn't know a Ming bowl from one of my own. I do now!

TALK AND GUIDED TOUR

Thursday, October 18, 1990
7:30 pm Tour – 8:00 pm Lecture
Vancouver Museum (Planetarium)
1100 Chestnut Street

Jean Fahrni will give an illustrated lecture about the Jean Mackay Fahrni collection recently purchased by the Hong Kong Bank of Canada and on loan to the Vancouver Museum. The evening is sponsored jointly by the Asian Arts Society of Canada and the Museum.

Those interested may join Jean at 7:30 and experience a guided tour of the new Asian Gallery and close-up look some of the pieces.

OPPORTUNITIES/ CALLS FOR ENTRY

Holiday Faire '90, December 5-9, P.N.E. Buildings, Vancouver, B.C., noon to 9:00 pm daily. An international holiday season show, that offers crafts, seasonal gifts and ideas, with special emphasis on international products and foods. \$6.00 sq. ft. 10x10, traditional storefront display included in exhibit price. E.S.P. for more information contact: Rosalie Schmidt, Holiday Faire '90, Box 69020, Vancouver, B.C. V5K 4W3 (604) 253-2311.

The **Community Arts Council of Vancouver** is calling for entries in its **5th Annual Juried Christmas Craft Sale**, to be held at the CAC Gallery during the first three weeks in December, 1990. The jury process will take place in Sept. and Oct., as application forms are received. Send a SASE to Christmas Craft Application Form, CAC, 837 Davie St., Vancouver, V6Z 1B7, or contact Michael Virnig at 683-4358.

Alberta Potters Association celebrates its 20th Anniversary with an exhibition of **CUPS** in May 1991—open to all alumni and people who have worked in clay in Alberta in the past 20 years. Contact: Glenys Marshall-Irman, Box 2, Site 8, R.R. #1, Priddis, Alberta T0L 1W0 (403) 931-3566.

Vancouver Craft Market at the Van-Dusen Botanical Gardens takes place on a regular basis. Contact Simone Avram, 8540 Demarest Dr., Richmond, B.C., V7A 4M1, 275-2724 for details.

Parke International Markets are accepting application for their craft markets at Whistler, Kamloops, Van Dusen

Gardens, Vancouver, West Vancouver, Coquitlam, White Rock, and Penticton. Contact 3257 W. 36th Ave., Vancouver, B.C., V6N 2R6, or phone 263-2363.

The Old School House, Box 1791, Qualicum Beach, B.C., V0R 2T0. **The Fine Art of Tea: A Look at the Ceremony Surrounding Afternoon Tea**, November 6-27, 1990. Cash award for best of juried show. Open to all media. Information: (604) 752-6133.

Unitarian Church of Vancouver at West 49th Avenue and Oak Street. **15th Annual Craft Fair**, November 24, 1990. Juried entry, \$20 fee plus 20% commission on sales. Information: Julia Myers (604) 324-3861 or Heather Mellis (604) 261-7204.

Cameo Craft Sales 11th Annual Christmas Craft Sale at Edmonton's downtown Convention Center. December 1-4 and 5-9. Maximum 138 booths. Juried. Contact Cameo Craft Sales, #645 First Edmonton Place, 10665 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3S9. (403) 424-0787.

Alma Mater Society, University of B.C., Christmas Craft Fair in the Student Union Building. November 19-23 and 26-30, 1990. Contact Debbie Tibbles (604) 228-3456. Unique opportunity for a lot of exposure to students, faculty and staff.

Creative Craft Fairs 10th Anniversary Fair (originated at Crystal Gardens, 1981). Now at the Racquet Club, 3964 Gordon Head Road, Victoria. Over 200 artisans. November 15-18, 1990. Information: Terri Heit, 977 Kentwood Terrace, Victoria, B.C. V8Y 1A5 (604) 658-2901.

Fraser Valley Potters' Guild annual juried exhibition, **Clay 90**, will be held at Ft. Langley Centennial Museum and Exhibition center, October 28 - November 25, 1990. Critique of entries by Tam Irving. Submission deadline: October 22. For information call Marilyn Raymond, (604) 581-5890 or Josie Stead, (604) 462-9324.

Table of Honour. Dinnerware and goblet competition and exhibition. Open to British Columbia ceramic and glass artists. The challenge is to design dinnerware and goblets for Government House, official residence of the Lieutenant-Governor of the province.

Grand prize winners in both dinnerware and goblet category will receive a \$1,000. Murchie's Award and be commissioned to produce twelve table settings.

Their Honours, Dr. and Mrs. David C. Lam will open the **Table of Honour Exhibition** of the finalists at the Canadian Craft Museum in April 1991. Plans are underway for a travelling exhibition. Entry forms are available at Guild office or by sending a SASE to Table of Honour, Box 93004, Caulfield Post Office, West Vancouver V7W 3G4. Contact Meria Beckerman if necessary, (604) 926-9403. Deadline for submissions is November 30, 1990.

Western Living Magazine will publish a feature on **Table of Honour** in the April 1991 issue.

Table of Honour is sponsored by Murchie's Tea and Coffee, Y. Frank's appliances and organized by Contemporary Art Collections.

- () Membership Application
- () Membership Renewal
- () Change of Address

Mail to:

The Potters Guild of B.C.
1359 Cartwright St.
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R7

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Tel: _____

I enclose my cheque/money order in the amount of \$ _____

(Fees: Individual: \$20/year, Group: \$30/year)

(New Members: September-January: Individual: \$10, Group: \$15)

DEATH NOTICE

Jane Bradish-Etty

Passed away peacefully at her home in North Vancouver on August 28, 1990.

Born in the Netherlands, Jane was active in the Dutch Underground Movement during the German occupation in World War II and came to Canada in 1946 as the first Dutch/Canadian war bride.

She was an accomplished potter who worked for many years, and much of her highly individual work can be seen throughout the Squamish, Whistler and Vancouver areas.

This summer Jane and her husband, Ed, donated to the Potters' Guild their collection of books on ceramics. This thoughtful gift was gratefully received and makes a substantial addition to our library.



Susan Lepoidevin

UNCLASSIFIED

WANTED: Kiln; electric or gas, 12 cu. ft. or larger. Phone: (604) 845-7227 or write:

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We are open on Saturdays again through the winter (see hours below and closed dates). As Saturdays tend to be very busy, please phone during the week to place your orders for Saturday pickup.

We have been re-painting the store, and the entrance to the building has also been finished, complete with sidewalks etc. No more dusty shoulders to the road. We do apologize for the inconvenience some of you have endured during the past couple of weeks and invite you to come again soon to see all the things we have. Remember, in addition to Pottery Supplies, we have a full range of copper enamelling supplies, including copper shapes, enamel powders, tools and enamelling kilns AND many products for the sculptor and commercial model maker, including industrial grade plasticine, self-hardening modelling clays, FIMO, and special plasters, including many items suitable for film industry use.

We are reasonably familiar with the effects GST will have on craftspeople in general and would be happy to answer any questions you may have. In addition Dave attended the GST session that was recently held at Emily Carr College.

Please note that we are OPEN on Saturdays from 9-1. Regular hours for the fall:

Monday - Friday	9 - 5
Saturdays	9 - 1

CLOSED:
THANKSGIVING WEEKEND:
Saturday, Oct. 6th and Monday Oct. 8th